Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5978

Please reply to:
FOI Administrator
Trust Management
Maidstone Hospital
Hermitage Lane
Maidstone, Kent
ME16 9QQ
Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

13 October 2020

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the
Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to cancelled children's operations.

You asked:
*The total number of children's operations cancelled for non-clinical reasons,
broken down by the cause of the cancellation, for example due to lack of
beds, operating theatre capacity, staffing issues, and equipment failures.
Please provide this information for each of the past three financial years
2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20). In the total number of operations, broken down
by cancellation reason, please include:*

 *· Elective children's operations cancelled at the last minute. For the purposes
of this request, last minute means on the day the patient was due to arrive,
after the patient has arrived in hospital or on the day of the operation or
surgery.*

 · Cancelled urgent children's operations.

For the purposes of this FOI, Children will be defined as under 18's.

Trust response:
We do not have the detail about whether the operation was urgent or not
without the manual checking of each patient record. The Trust has estimated
that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider this part of your
request. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and represents the
estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining
whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the
information. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the
Trust is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be
processing this part of your request further.

Please see below the table of last minute cancellations for paediatric operations, as reported in the QMCO report.

Count of Patient No	Financial Year		
Reason	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
SURGON/CONSULTANT NOT AVAILABLE	8	7	0
OTHER REPORTABLE	12	0	1
ADMIN ERROR	1	6	3
NO TIME	2	4	1
EMERGENCY INTERRUPTION	1	3	1
LIST OVERRUN	0	0	4
EQUIPMENT FAILURE	1	2	0
Total	**25**	**22**	**10**